

State of Rhode Island **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Enclosure 5a1 December 8, 2020

December 8, 2020

TO: Members of the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

FROM: Angélica Infante-Green, Commissioner

RE: Achievement First Rhode Island - Proposal for an Expansion

In accordance to R.I.G.L. §16-77.4-3, proposals for an expansion require the action of the Council of Elementary and Secondary Education. Further, when considering the overall merits of a proposed charter, R.I.G.L. § 16-77.4-3 requires the Council to place substantial weight on the fiscal impact on the city or town, programmatic impact on the sending school district, and the educational impact on the students in the sending district to ensure that the proposal is economically prudent for the city or town, and academically prudent for the proposed sending school district and for all students in the sending district.

RIDE, in partnership with the external evaluator SchoolWorks, has conducted an in-depth review of the proposed charter, including Achievement First Rhode Island's (AFRI) proposed academic model, public feedback, and the impact that the proposed charter would have on local communities. RIDE has concluded that the proposal submitted by AFRI is both academically and economically prudent, and will result in high-quality academic opportunities for Rhode Island's students.

RECOMMENDATION: THAT the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education moves to approve Achievement First Rhode Island's proposal for an expansion to begin in school year 2021-2022 in Providence and North Providence.

Enclosed Documents:

The following documents provide further detail regarding the Commissioner's recommendation and analysis contributing to that recommendation:

- Commissioner's Recommendation Overview and a detailed overview of AFRI's proposal
- Summary of the quality evaluation for the proposal
- AFRI's Response to the Commissioner's recommendation
- RIDE's local impact analysis (educational, programmatic, and fiscal) for all projected enrolling communities
- Any local impact analyses submitted by the public pertaining to the proposal at hand



AFRI Public Charter School Commissioner's Recommendation & Proposal Overview

Commissioner's Recommendation: Approval

Summary of Proposal

Proposed Charter Overview						
Charter Type:	Mayoral Academy	Year Expanding:	2021-22			
Location of School:	Providence	Grade Level (At-Scale):	K-12			
Enrolling Communities:	Providence, North Providence	Total New Seats Requested:	2,628 Across two K-8 schools and one High School			

School Mission & Model					
School Mission:	"The mission of AFRI is to deliver on the promise of equal educational opportunity for all of America's children."				
School Model:	AFRI currently serves 3,112 students across three elementary schools and two middle schools in Rhode Island, with its current approval including a high school that will open in 2021-22. It proposes expanding its portfolio beginning in in 2021-22 to include an additional two K-8 schools and another high school. The network will begin expanding in 2021-22. AFRI's model focuses on closing the achievement gap through the prioritization of great teaching and exceptional student experience. More specifically, AFRI's model revolves around rigorous and engaging instruction as well as a focused and joyful culture.				

Proposed Expansion Enrollment						
Charter Year	School Year	Cohorts	Additional Seats			
Year 1	2021-22	K-8 (#4), Grades K-1	186			
Year 2	2022-23	K-8 (#4), Grades K-2 K-8 (#5), Grades K-1	465			
Year 3	2023-24	K-8 (#4), Grades K-3 K-8 (#5), Grades K-2	651			
Year 4	2024-25	K-8 (#4), Grades K-4 K-8 (#5), Grades K-3	837			
Year 5	2025-26	K-8 (#4), Grades K-5 K-8 (#5), Grades K-4	1,032			
Year 13 (At-Scale)	2033-34	K-8 (#4), Grades K-8 K-8 (#5), Grades K-8 HS RI, Grade 9 Additional Seats to HS PMA	2,296 Additional to HS #1: 332			

1



AFRI Public Charter School Commissioner's Recommendation & Proposal Overview Commissioner's Recommendation: Approval

Overview of Public Comment				
Public Comment Period	September 29, 2020 to December 1, 2020			
Public Hearings	Two public hearings were held virtually via Zoom for AFRI: 1) October 27, 2020; 2) November 18, 2020			
Summary of Received Public Comments	RIDE received 439 spoken and written comments during the public comment period. Of the 439 received public comments, 425 comments (97%) supported the proposal, 11 comments (<3%) opposed the proposal, and 3 comments (<1%) neither supported nor opposed.			

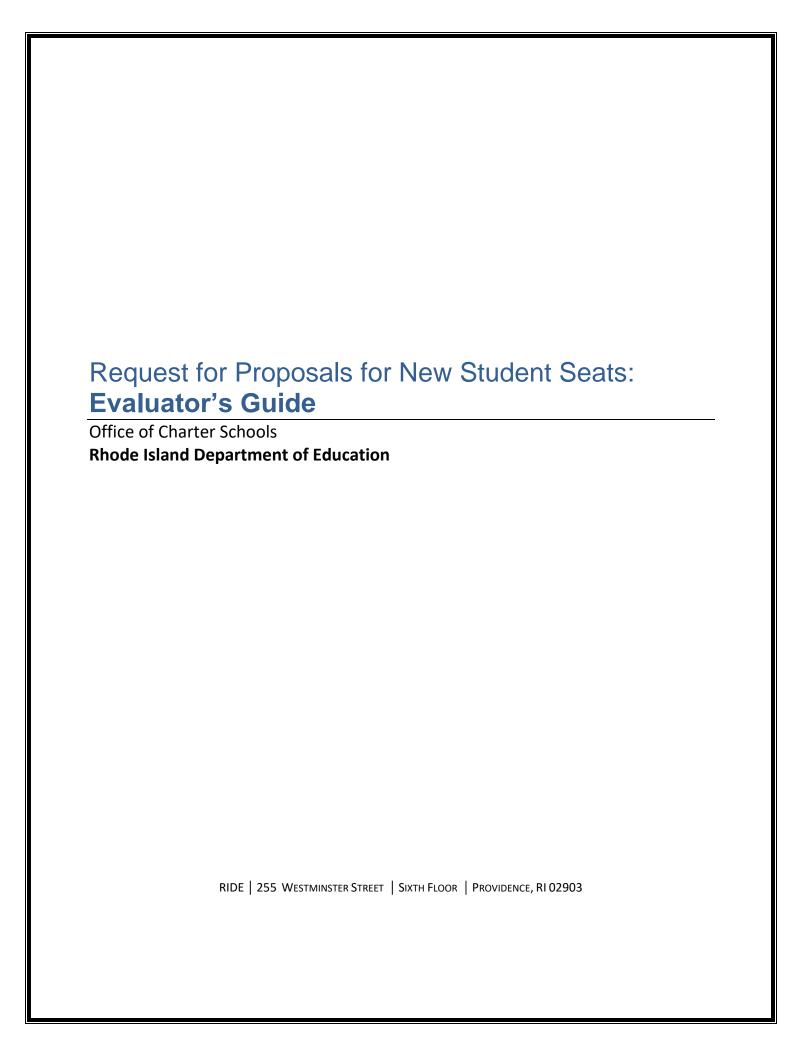


AFRI Public Charter School

Commissioner's Recommendation & Proposal Overview Commissioner's Recommendation: Approval

Overview of Commissioner's Recommendation

Summary of Recommendation						
Recommended Action:	The Commissioner recommends that the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education move to grant <u>approval</u> to AFRI's proposal for expansion in Providence and North Providence.					
	As verified by SchoolWorks, an independent, nationally recognized reviewer, the AFRI applicant team has provided a proposal with a focus on closing the achievement gap that has strong potential to meet the needs of students in the Providence area and is financially sustainable.					
	Review of the application finds that AFRI has defined a clear instructional vision and ensures consistency in the implementation of high-quality instruction across all schools through the use of a network rubric that outlines a common course of study.					
	 Review of AFRI's 2019 Rhode Island Comprehensive Assessment System (RICAS) comparison performance data shows that AFRI students in grades three through six outperformed the Statewide and comparison district averages (North Providence, Providence) in mathematics. Additionally, AFRI students in grades three, four, and six outperformed the Statewide and comparison district averages in English Language Arts. Fifth grade AFRI students outperformed the district average in Providence and were at, or slightly below, averages Statewide and in North Providence. 					
W. D. Lu	• The applicant group demonstrates having garnered strong community demand for its schools, reporting that AFRI received 4,373 applications for 526 seats in SY2020-21. The expansion will allow them to serve more students in the Providence area.					
Key Recommendation Drivers:	As part of the Achievement First network, all AFRI schools will have access to network resources that will ensure the implementation of proven, consistent financial management systems and services.					
	• The application was rated "yes" on 84.6% of the application standards, and "mostly" for 7.7% of the application standards (one standard) evaluated by SchoolWorks in the quality evaluation. It did not meet 7.7% of the application standards (one standard).					
	• <u>Family Demand</u> : For the 2020-21 school year, there were more than 12,000 applications received from students in grades K-12 residing in North Providence and Providence. Only 979 seats were offered to these applicants.					
	 Out of all the students in the enrolling communities in grades K-12 that applied to a charter school in 2020, 8% in Providence and 9% in North Providence were offered a charter school seat. 					
	 At-scale, AFRI's enrollment represents 2.6% of North Providence's student enrollment and 7.6% of Providence's student enrollment in 2020-21. 					
	 According to March 2020 charter lottery data, 49% of the over 10,000 unique applications for charter school seats were applications from North Providence and Providence families. 					



2020 Review of New Seat Proposals: Expansions

Comment Summary Sheet

Name of Charter Proposal: Achievement First Rhode Island (AFRI) Expansion Application

Evaluator Name: Maria Sokol

Date Completed: November 20, 2020

Summary of Comments						
Does this section meet the overall standard of quality? NO MOSTLY YES						
1. Cover Sheet						
2. Executive Summary						
3. Mission Statement			\boxtimes			
4. Proposed New Students and Enrollment			\boxtimes			
5. Goals	\boxtimes					
6. Community Need and Support			\boxtimes			
7. Educational Program						
a. Track Record of Success		\boxtimes				
b. Practices and Program Function			\boxtimes			
c. – i. Education Program Changes			\boxtimes			
8. Organizational Capacity			\boxtimes			
9. Facilities			\boxtimes			
10. Operations			\boxtimes			
11. Finance and Budget			\boxtimes			
12. Variances			\boxtimes			
13. Charter School Program Intent to Apply						
Appendix A: Required Attachments		\boxtimes				

Overall	Submission	NO	MOSTLY	YES
criteria o Oi o 12 o A na o Pa	the proposal adhere to all formatting and submission a, including: ne-inch margins? 2-point font? table of contents that references all sections of the arrative and all attachments? age numbers on each page, including on attachments? D pages double-spaced, excluding attachments?			\boxtimes
A. Is the	request free of typographical and grammatical errors?			\boxtimes
	tations used for all references and/or excerpts? notes requested as a citation style)			

Upon evaluating the quality of the submitted proposal, interview, and the performance tasks, SchoolWorks recommends that the Rhode Island Department of Education consider recommending for approval the proposal submitted by Achievement First Rhode Island (AFRI).

SchoolWorks acknowledges that the Commissioner's final recommendation to the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education will consist of a review of SchoolWorks' ratings, feedback, and recommendation regarding the quality of the proposal, a review of public comment, and a review of a local impact analysis.

Essential Strengths of the proposal:

- The applicant group explains that the expansion will respond to demand, relieve wait lists and address the need for an equal and better education for RI children. For example, the applicant reports AFRI received 4,373 applications for 526 seats in SY2020-21. Further, they stated during the interview that expansion will provide them with the scale needed to best serve students at a more rapid pace.
- Appendix A (Enrollment Table) provides a clear description of the school's expansion plan, showing total
 enrollment and grades to be served in AFRI's entire network, including five elementary schools, five middle
 schools and 2 high schools over the next 11 years to meet full capacity (5,740 K-12 students) in 2032-33.
- The applicant group describes Achievement First's (AF's) core values that form the backbone of both AF and
 AFRI schools. They also provide a copy of the Network's Essential rubric to define AF's instructional vision and
 explain that AF schools follow a consistent course of study so they may leverage the power of the network (e.g.,
 strong curricula, consistent interim assessments, shared observations of instruction) and deliver a consistently
 high-quality education.
- The applicant group states that in order to expand, AF is taking multiple steps to ensure increased excellence
 with increased scale, such as developing talent at the regional leadership, principal and principal-in-residence
 levels; promoting their highest-performing RI principal to be a principal manager; and hiring an additional
 regional superintendent to support secondary schools. They also state that they are exploring ways to create
 greater efficiencies to share resources.
- The application details that being a part of the AF Network, all schools have access to network resources which will ensure the implementation of proven, consistent financial management systems and services.
- AFRI is committed to being a part of the community and has established purposeful relationships with missionaligned organizations. Further, they stated during the interview that they plan to increase community engagement through the creation of more systematic partnerships in order to best serve all families through expansion. Additionally, the applicant group explained that it has been building strong relationships with families and community organizations and indicated that involvement, upon expansion, will be sustained.

Essential Concerns with the proposal:

- While the applicant group cites awareness of the RIDE accountability measures that "determine their star ratings" and elaborate on metrics in the AF report card that they state is far more rigorous than any external evaluation, the applicant group does not address the charter performance framework or identify the charter's goals. Similarly, the applicant group describes goals within AF's 5-year plan but does not explain where they are relative to the ratings in the charter performance framework. Likewise, during the interview, the applicant group spoke informally about the charter performance framework, stating they set and maintain goals that are grounded against the district's goals; however, they did not identify the charter goals.
- While the applicant group provides SY2018-19 data to highlight AFRI 3rd-to-6th-grade students outperformed the State and Providence Public School District (PPSD) on both English Language Arts (ELA) and math State tests, the applicant group does not provide a track record of sustained high performance for all proposed grade levels. Additionally, the applicant group does not provide a thorough description of AF's "21-year track record of results."

By signing this Comment Cover Sheet, I hereby declare that I have reviewed and commented on the				
aforementioned request for charter school expansion, and that I have no	known conflicts of interest with the			
individuals submitting the request.				
T				
Paige Gonzalez	11/20/2020			
Signature	Date			



December 4, 2020

Angélica Infante-Green Commissioner of Education 255 Westminster Street Providence, RI 02903

Dear Commissioner Infante-Green,

Achievement First and the leaders of our five schools currently operating in Rhode Island are honored to have received your recommendation to the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education to accept our proposal for expansion. To-date our Rhode Island schools have had some of the strongest starts in the history of the Achievement First network and this is due in no small part to the quality of the teaching talent and engagement of our Rhode Island families in our school community.

The Achievement First network of schools has strived and succeeded at designing academic programs, professional development, and operational processes that result in strong outcomes for scholars, as well as sustainability and scalability for our schools. Our leaders' willingness and ability to identify weaknesses and rapidly develop solutions has helped our schools grow and improve in order to provide strong options for our sending districts, rival high-income benchmark districts, and achieve national recognition.

We want to ensure that your office and the Council of Elementary & Secondary Education understand that our schools wouldn't have achieved these successes without a commitment to setting and pursuing aggressive goals. Even before authorizers like RIDE and those in our other states developed strong measures of accountability for schools, Achievement First had developed our internal AF Report Card to benchmark our schools against one another, identify areas of improvement and share best leadership practices across schools and regions.

Areas where our schools have fallen short on the AF Report Card or State accountability measures have been addressed and solved, usually within one or two school years. These challenges have included both academic measures as well as school culture and compliance. In short, we measure our performance and respond to the data quickly.

It is this commitment to measurement and development that gives AF leaders the confidence that we can meet the demands of the expansion plan that you have endorsed on our behalf. First and foremost we are committed to the 5,500+ Rhode Island scholars we plan to serve, but also commit to honor the faith that you and the Council will place in our schools when you formally approve our expansion plan on December 15th.

Thank you for your continued support of our staff and scholars, and your partnership in offering Rhode Island families the strongest and most equitable education possible.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Winangun

Elizabeth Winangun
Director/External Relations



Proposal Overview

Proposed Charter Overview						
Charter Type:	Mayoral	Year First Opened:	2013-14			
Location of School(s):	Providence, Cranston	Current Grade Levels:	K-8			
Enrolling Communities:	Providence, North Providence, Cranston, Warwick	Currently Approved Grade Levels:	K-12			
Total New Seats Requested:	2,628 Across two K-8 schools and one High School	Currently Approved Seats:	3,112 Across three K-8 schools and one High School			

Summary of Proposal

- Proposes adding two K-8 campuses and one high school (9-12)
- AFRI opened as a Rhode Island Mayoral Academy in August 2013, and has expanded to include three elementary schools and two middle schools in its portfolio
- For SY2020-21, AFRI received 4,373 applications for 526 open seats in grades K-8
- The expansion would begin in SY2021-22 with 186 in new K-1 grades.

	Current Approved Enrollment and Expansion Request					
Year	Current Schools/Grades	Total Approved Enrollment	Proposed Expansion Schools/Grades	Proposed Expansion Enrollment		
2021-22	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-7 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-2 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9	2,047	K-8 (#4), Grades K-1	186		
2022-23	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-3 High School (PMA), Providence, Grade 9-10	2,368	K-8 (#4), Grades K-2 K-8 (#5), Grades K-1	465		
2023-24	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-4 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-11	2,582	K-8 (#4), Grades K-3 K-8 (#5), Grades K-2	651		
2024-25	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-5 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	2,806	K-8 (#4), Grades K-4 K-8 (#5), Grades K-3	837		



2025-26	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-6 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	2,908	K-8 (#4), Grades K-5 K-8 (#5), Grades K-4	1,032
2026-27	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-7 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,010	K-8 (#4), Grades K-6 K-8 (#5), Grades K-5	1,236
2027-28	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-8 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,112	K-8 (#4), Grades K-7 K-8 (#5), Grades K-6	1,440
2028-29	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-8 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,112	K-8 (#4), Grades K-8 K-8 (#5), Grades K-7 Additional Seats to HS PMA	1,644 Additional to HS PMA: 100
2029-30	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-8 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,112	K-8 (#4), Grades K-8 K-8 (#5), Grades K-8 HS RI, Grade 9 Additional Seats to HS PMA	1,841 Additional to HS #1: 185
2030-31	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-8 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,112	K-8 (#4), Grades K-8 K-8 (#5), Grades K-8 HS RI, Grade 9-10 Additional Seats to HS PMA	1,995 Additional to HS #1: 263
2031-32	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-8 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,112	K-8 (#4), Grades K-8 K-8 (#5), Grades K-8 HS RI, Grade 9-11 Additional Seats to HS PMA	2,132 Additional to HS #1: 332
2032-33	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-8 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,112	K-8 (#4), Grades K-8 K-8 (#5), Grades K-8 HS RI, Grade 9-12 Additional Seats to HS PMA	2,255 Additional to HS #1: 332
2033-34	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-8 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,112	K-8 (#4), Grades K-8 K-8 (#5), Grades K-8 HS RI, Grade 9-12 Additional Seats to HS PMA	2,296 Additional to HS #1: 332



Enrollment Assumptions & Comparisonⁱ

This local impact analysis assumes that AFRI's expansion may proceed without Mayoral support from the enrolling communities of Cranston and Warwick. The tables below are adjusted for this scenario accordingly.

Demographics of Enrolling Communities							
LEA	% Economically Disadvantaged	% Multi-Lingual Learners	% Differently-abled students	% Minority students			
AFRI	65.4	24.7	6.9	96.2			
State	47.7	10.7	15.7	44.8			
	Enrolling Communities						
North Providence	46.6	4.7	17.0	43.7			
Providence	84.5	33.1	14.7	91.8			

How does the charter's projected enrollment fit within the overall portfolio of enrolling districts?						
Enrollment Category	N. Providence	Providence				
Total # of students enrolled in each district	3,584	23,836				
AFRI's at-scale enrollment as a % of each enrolling community's enrollment	3.7%	10.5%				
Total # of students residing in each enrolling community ⁱⁱ	4,052	29,650				
AFRI's at-scale enrollment as a % of total # of students residing in each enrolling community	3.2%	8.4%				

Educational & Programmatic Impact Analysisiii

2019 RICAS Grades 3-8 Performance Comparison

RICAS Results	English Language Arts					Mathematics						
RICAS RESults	Gr. 3	Gr. 4	Gr. 5	Gr. 6	Gr. 7	Gr. 8	Gr. 3	Gr. 4	Gr. 5	Gr. 6	Gr. 7	Gr. 8
Achievement First	63.7	58.2	36.2	62.5	-	-	52.8	62.8	41.5	52.4	-	-
North Providence	45.3	33.3	36.3	46.6	42.7	47.4	34.4	24.8	25.1	26.8	24.2	30.3
Providence	26.4	15.2	19.9	18.0	8.6	14.9	17.0	14.1	12.9	12.2	8.03	7.04
State	47.9	37.2	39.1	39.1	31.5	36.3	36.1	32.6	30.1	27.9	27.6	24.5

2019 RICAS Subgroup Performance Comparison

RICAS Results	English Language Arts (% Meets/Exceeds)	Mathematics (% Meets/Exceeds)
---------------	---	-------------------------------



All Tested Grades Demographic Breakdown	All	Econ Disadv.	Multi- Lingual	Differently- abled	All	Econ Disadv.	Multi- Lingual	Differently- abled
Achievement First	57.1	54.4	41.1	10.3	54	52.7	38.9	15.4
N. Providence	42.1	34.1	17.5	6.3	27.5	20.0	8.2	**
Providence	17.2	15.2	5.5	11.4	11.9	10.4	**	**
State	36.5	22.5	7.9	6.1	29.8	15.7	6.3	5.0

Achievement First Rhode Island's first year of high school grades will be 2021-22, thus there is not data to compare high school assessment performance.

Student Demand Analysis for Grade K-12 Charter Seatsiv							
AFRI N. Providence Provider							
Number of 2020-21 Charter Applications by community for grades K-12:	4,958	330	11,776				
Number of 2020-21 Charter Seats Offered by community for grades K-12:	446	31	948				
What % of 2020-21 grades K-12 lottery applicants by community were offered a seat?	9%	9%	8%				

Fiscal Impact Analysis

Educational funding dollars follow each child to the school of their choice. The following analysis projects the total amount of funding that would follow students to the school of their choice, commensurate with the size of the requested expansion.

Projected Student Funding Projections						
	N. Prov.	Prov.				
Local Share – Projected FY21 per-pupil funding for each resident student ^v	\$8,828	\$4,570				
State Share – Projected FY21 per-pupil funding for each resident student ^{vi}	\$6,936	\$11,806				
Federal Share – Projected FY21per-pupil funding for each resident student ^{vii}	\$773	\$2,000				
Projected FY21total per-pupil funding for each resident Student (i.e. RIDE projects this amount of total local + state federal per-pupil funding for each Providence student in FY21)	\$16,537	\$18,376				
Less: 7% withheld from the local share of per pupil funding per pupil for "fixed or unique" costsviii	\$954 & \$902 (retirement adjustment)	\$320				
Local Share – Projected FY21per-pupil funding for each resident student, less the 7% withheld for "fixed or unique" costs	\$6,972	\$4,250				



Projected FY21total per-pupil funding for each resident Student (excluding funds withheld for "fixed or unique costs")	\$14,681	\$18,056
--	----------	----------

Total Pupil Funding Projections, Commensurate with Expansion Proposal: North Providence

Fiscal Year	Proposed Expansion Projected Enrollment Total North Providence		Projected Total Local Share Pupil Funding commensurate	Projected Total Local Share Per Pupil Funding as % of local FY19	Projected Total Pupil Funding (Local+State+ Federal) commensurate	Projected Total Withholding for Fixed or Unique
			with new charter proposal	Total Expenditures ^{ix}	with new charter proposal	Costs (to district)
2021-22 (Year 1)	186	9	\$62,748	0.10%	\$132,129	\$16,704
2025-26 (5 years)	1,032	52	\$362,544	0.59%	\$763,412	\$96,512
2033-34 (at scale)	2,628	131	\$913,332	1.48%	\$1,923,211	\$243,136

<u>Key implication:</u> RIDE projects on an annual basis by FY2033-34, commensurate with the new school proposal reaching full enrollment at-scale, total funding of \$1,923,211 to be generated by North Providence. \$913,332 of this \$1,923,211 will be contributed through local share funding. This \$913,332 represents 1.48% of North Providence's total reported FY19 expenditures.

Total Pupil Funding Projections, Commensurate with Expansion Proposal: Providence

Fiscal Year	Proposed Expansion Projected Enrollment		Projected Total Local Share Pupil Funding commensurate	Projected Total Local Share Per Pupil Funding as % of local FY19	Projected Total Pupil Funding (Local+State+ Federal) commensurate	Projected Total Withholding for Fixed or Unique	
Total Pro		Providence	with new charter proposal	Total Expenditures ^x	with new charter proposal	Costs (to district)	
2021-22 (Year 1)	186	177	\$752,250	0.17%	\$3,195,912	\$56,640	
2025-26 (5 years)	1,032	980	\$4,165,000	0.95%	\$17,694,880	\$313,600	
2033-34 (at scale)	2,628	2,497	\$10,612,250	2.42%	\$45,085,832	\$799,040	

<u>Key implication:</u> RIDE projects on an annual basis by FY2033-34, commensurate with the new school proposal reaching full enrollment at-scale, total funding of \$45,085,832 to be generated by Providence students. \$10,612,250



of this \$45,085,832 will be contributed through local share funding. This \$10,612,250 represents 2.42% of PPSD's total reported FY19 expenditures.

ⁱ Enrollment Assumptions and Comparison based off 10/1/19 reported data publicly available through RIDE's FRED database.

ii Inclusive of independent and catholic schools as available through RIDE's FRED database.

iii Academic Outcome data is based off published assessment results for 2019 available through the public Rhode Island Assessment Data Portal. *Data is suppressed to ensure confidentiality because the minimum reporting size requirement (10 students) is not met. **Data is suppressed to ensure confidentiality because greater than 95% of students did not meet expectations.

iv Demand analysis is based on the most recent lottery data available through the RIDE Charter School Applicant Report. Reporting sizes of less than 10 are suppressed for student privacy.

v Assumes constant local per-pupil funding, net of a constant withholding for fixed or unique costs.

vi Assumes constant state per-pupil funding.

vii Federal funding assumed constant and based off district averages.

viii Withholding for fixed or unique costs is the greater of either: 1) 7% of the per-pupil local share funding; or, 2) the per-pupil value of the districts' fixed or unique costs district's statutorily defined expenditure categories minus the average expenses incurred by all public schools of choice for those same categories of expenses. For those districts whose greater reduction occurs under the calculation of (2), there shall be an additional reduction to payments to mayoral academies with teachers who do not participate in the state teacher's retirement system under chapter 8 of title 36 equal to the per-pupil value of teacher retirement costs attributable to unfunded liability as calculated by the state's actuary for the prior preceding fiscal year. Assumed constant in projections.

ix Total FY19 North Providence Expenditures: \$61,554,948 (all expenditures based on most recent, audited UCOA data)

x Total FY19 Providence Expenditures: \$438,019,645 (all expenditures based on most recent, audited UCOA data)



Proposal Overview

Proposed Charter Overview						
Charter Type:	Mayoral	Year First Opened:	2013-14			
Location of School(s):	Providence, Cranston	Current Grade Levels:	K-8			
Enrolling Communities:	Providence, North Providence, Cranston, Warwick	Currently Approved Grade Levels:	K-12			
Total New Seats Requested:	2,628 Across two K-8 schools and one High School	Currently Approved Seats:	3,112 Across three K-8 schools and one High School			

Summary of Proposal

- Proposes adding two K-8 campuses and one high school (9-12)
- AFRI opened as a Rhode Island Mayoral Academy in August 2013, and has expanded to include three elementary schools and two middle schools in its portfolio
- For SY2020-21, AFRI received 4,373 applications for 526 open seats in grades K-8
- The expansion would begin in SY2021-22 with 186 in new K-1 grades.

	Current Approved Enrollment and Expansion Request						
Year	Current Schools/Grades	Total Approved Enrollment	Proposed Expansion Schools/Grades	Proposed Expansion Enrollment			
2021-22	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-7 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-2 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9	2,047	K-8 (#4), Grades K-1	186			
2022-23	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-3 High School (PMA), Providence, Grade 9-10	2,368	K-8 (#4), Grades K-2 K-8 (#5), Grades K-1	465			
2023-24	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-4 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-11	2,582	K-8 (#4), Grades K-3 K-8 (#5), Grades K-2	651			
2024-25	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-5 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	2,806	K-8 (#4), Grades K-4 K-8 (#5), Grades K-3	837			



2025-26	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-6 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	2,908	K-8 (#4), Grades K-5 K-8 (#5), Grades K-4	1,032
2026-27	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-7 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,010	K-8 (#4), Grades K-6 K-8 (#5), Grades K-5	1,236
2027-28	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-8 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,112	K-8 (#4), Grades K-7 K-8 (#5), Grades K-6	1,440
2028-29	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-8 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,112	K-8 (#4), Grades K-8 K-8 (#5), Grades K-7 Additional Seats to HS PMA	1,644 Additional to HS PMA: 100
2029-30	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-8 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,112	K-8 (#4), Grades K-8 K-8 (#5), Grades K-8 HS RI, Grade 9 Additional Seats to HS PMA	1,841 Additional to HS #1: 185
2030-31	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-8 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,112	K-8 (#4), Grades K-8 K-8 (#5), Grades K-8 HS RI, Grade 9-10 Additional Seats to HS PMA	1,995 Additional to HS #1: 263
2031-32	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-8 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,112	K-8 (#4), Grades K-8 K-8 (#5), Grades K-8 HS RI, Grade 9-11 Additional Seats to HS PMA	2,132 Additional to HS #1: 332
2032-33	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-8 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,112	K-8 (#4), Grades K-8 K-8 (#5), Grades K-8 HS RI, Grade 9-12 Additional Seats to HS PMA	2,255 Additional to HS #1: 332
2033-34	K-8 (#1) PMA, Grades K-8 K-8 (#2) Illuminar, Grades K-8 K-8 (#3) Promesa. Grades K-8 High School (#1), Providence, Grade 9-12	3,112	K-8 (#4), Grades K-8 K-8 (#5), Grades K-8 HS RI, Grade 9-12 Additional Seats to HS PMA	2,296 Additional to HS #1: 332



Enrollment Assumptions & Comparisonⁱ

Demographics of Enrolling Communities										
LEA	% Economically Disadvantaged	% Multi-Lingual Learners	% Differently-abled students	% Minority students						
AFRI	65.4	24.7	6.9	96.2						
State	47.7	10.7	15.7	44.8						
		Enrolling Communities								
Cranston	43.1	7.4	15.3	50.1						
North Providence	46.6	4.7	17.0	43.7						
Providence	84.5	33.1	14.7	91.8						
Warwick	34.6	2.1	16.5	23.7						

How does the charter's projected enrollment fit within the overall portfolio of enrolling districts?										
Enrollment Category	Cranston	N. Providence	Providence	Warwick						
Total # of students enrolled in each district	10,302	3,584	23,836	8,591						
AFRI's at-scale enrollment as a % of each enrolling community's enrollment	2.3%	2.9%	9.5%	0.3%						
Total # of students residing in each enrolling community ⁱⁱ	11,379	4,052	29,650	9,910						
AFRI's at-scale enrollment as a % of total # of students residing in each enrolling community	2.1%	2.6%	7.6%	0.3%						

Educational & Programmatic Impact Analysisiii

2019 RICAS Grades 3-8 Performance Comparison

, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,												
RICAS Results	English Language Arts					Mathematics						
RIGAS Results	Gr. 3	Gr. 4	Gr. 5	Gr. 6	Gr. 7	Gr. 8	Gr. 3	Gr. 4	Gr. 5	Gr. 6	Gr. 7	Gr. 8
Achievement First	63.7	58.2	36.2	62.5	-	-	52.8	62.8	41.5	52.4	-	-
Cranston	54.9	40.2	44.2	39.9	34.4	36.7	34.4	34.3	31.6	23.7	26.2	19
North Providence	45.3	33.3	36.3	46.6	42.7	47.4	34.4	24.8	25.1	26.8	24.2	30.3
Providence	26.4	15.2	19.9	18.0	8.6	14.9	17.0	14.1	12.9	12.2	8.03	7.04
Warwick	51.1	34.5	43.5	39.7	27.1	31.8	31.6	22.9	29.8	25.2	28.4	20.7
State	47.9	37.2	39.1	39.1	31.5	36.3	36.1	32.6	30.1	27.9	27.6	24.5



2019 RICAS Subgroup Performance Comparison

RICAS Results	Englis	h Language A	rts (% Meets	/Exceeds)	Mathematics (% Meets/Exceeds)			
All Tested Grades Demographic Breakdown	All	Econ Disadv.	Multi- Lingual	Differently- abled	All	Econ Disadv.	Multi- Lingual	Differently -abled
Achievement First	57.1	54.4	41.1	10.3	54	52.7	38.9	15.4
Cranston	41.4	26.7	10.2	6	27.9	16.2	8.7	**
N. Providence	42.1	34.1	17.5	6.3	27.5	20.0	8.2	**
Providence	17.2	15.2	5.5	11.4	11.9	10.4	**	**
Warwick	37.9	28	13.1	**	26.5	16	19.1	**
State	36.5	22.5	7.9	6.1	29.8	15.7	6.3	5.0

Achievement First Rhode Island's first year of high school grades will be 2021-22, thus there is not data to compare high school assessment performance.

Student Demand Analysis for Grade K-12 Charter Seatsiv										
	AFRI	Cranston	North Providence	Providence	Warwick					
Number of 2020-21 Charter Applications by community for grades K-12:	4,958	790	330	11,776	205					
Number of 2020-21 Charter Seats Offered by community for grades K-12:	446	84	31	948	17					
What % of 2020-21 grades K-12 lottery applicants by community were offered a seat?	9%	11%	9%	8%	8%					



Fiscal Impact Analysis

Educational funding dollars follow each child to the school of their choice. The following analysis projects the total amount of funding that would follow students to the school of their choice, commensurate with the size of the requested expansion.

		Projected Per-	Pupil Funding	
	Cranston	N. Prov.	Prov.	Warwick
Local Share – Projected FY21 per-pupil funding for each resident student ^v	\$8,900	\$8,828	\$4,570	\$13,940
State Share – Projected FY21 per-pupil funding for each resident student ^{vi}	\$6,718	\$6,936	\$11,806	\$4,380
Federal Share – Projected FY21per-pupil funding for each resident student ^{vii}	\$1,033	\$773	\$2,000	\$821
Projected FY21total per-pupil funding for each resident Student (i.e. RIDE projects this amount of total local + state federal per-pupil funding for each Providence student in FY21)	\$16,651	\$16,537	\$18,376	\$19,141
Less: 7% withheld from the local share of per pupil funding per pupil for "fixed or unique" costsviii	\$623	\$954 & \$902 (retirement adjustment)	\$320	\$976
Local Share – Projected FY21per-pupil funding for each resident student, less the 7% withheld for "fixed or unique" costs	\$8,277	\$6,972	\$4,250	\$12,964
Projected FY21total per-pupil funding for each resident Student (excluding funds withheld for "fixed or unique costs")	\$16,028	\$14,681	\$18,056	\$18,165

Total Pupil Funding Projections, Commensurate with Expansion Proposal: Cranston

•		d Expansion d Enrollment	Projected Total Local Share Pupil Funding commensurate with new charter	Projected Total Local Share Per Pupil Funding as % of local FY19	Projected Total Pupil Funding (Local+State+ Federal) commensurate	Projected Total Withholding for Fixed or Unique	
	Total	Cranston	proposal	Total Expenditures ^{ix}	with new charter proposal	Costs (to district)	
2021-22 (Year 1)	186	17	\$140,709	0.08%	\$272,476	\$10,591	
2025-26 (5 years)	1,032	93	\$769,761	0.45%	\$1,490,604	\$57,939	
2033-34 (at scale)	2,628	237	\$1,961,649	1.14%	\$3,798,636	\$147,651	



<u>Key implication:</u> RIDE projects on an annual basis by FY2033-34, commensurate with the new school proposal reaching full enrollment at-scale, total funding of \$3,798,636 to be generated by Cranston students. \$1,961,649 of this \$3,798,636 will be contributed through local share funding. This \$1,961,649 represents 1.14% of Cranston's total reported FY19 expenditures.

Total Pupil Funding Projections, Commensurate with Expansion Proposal: North Providence

		ed Expansion d Enrollment	Projected Total Local Share Pupil Funding commensurate	Projected Total Local Share Per Pupil Funding as % of local FY19	Projected Total Pupil Funding (Local+State+ Federal) commensurate	Projected Total Withholding for Fixed or Unique	
	Total I	North Providence	with new charter proposal	Total Expenditures ^x	with new charter	Costs (to district)	
2021-22 (Year 1)	186	7	\$118,524	0.19%	\$249,577	\$31,552	
2025-26 (5 years)	1,032	41	\$285,852	0.46%	\$601,921	\$76,096	
2033-34 (at scale)	2,628	105	\$732,060	1.19%	\$1,541,505	\$194,880	

<u>Key implication:</u> RIDE projects on an annual basis by FY2033-34, commensurate with the new school proposal reaching full enrollment at-scale, total funding of \$1,541,505 to be generated by North Providence. \$732,060 of this \$1,541,505 will be contributed through local share funding. This \$732,060 represents 1.19% of North Providence's total reported FY19 expenditures.

Total Pupil Funding Projections, Commensurate with Expansion Proposal: Providence

_		ed Expansion d Enrollment	Projected Total Local Share Pupil Funding commensurate with new charter	Projected Total Local Share Per Pupil Funding as % of local FY19	Projected Total Pupil Funding (Local+State+ Federal) commensurate	Projected Total Withholding for Fixed or Unique Costs (to district)
	Total	Providence	proposal	Total Expenditures ^{xi}	with new charter proposal	costs (to district)
2021-22 (Year 1)	186	160	\$680,000	0.16%	\$2,888,960	\$51,200
2025-26 (5 years)	1,032	888	\$3,774,000	0.86%	\$16,033,728	\$284,160
2033-34 (at scale)	2,628	2,260	\$9,605,000	2.19%	\$40,806,560	\$723,200

<u>Key implication:</u> RIDE projects on an annual basis by FY2033-34, commensurate with the new school proposal reaching full enrollment at-scale, total funding of \$40,806,560 to be generated by Providence students. \$9,605,000



of this \$40,806,560 will be contributed through local share funding. This \$9,605,000 represents 2.19% of PPSD's total reported FY19 expenditures.

Total Pupil Funding Projections, Commensurate with Expansion Proposal: Warwick

Fiscal Year	Proposed Expansion Projected Enrollment		Projected Total Local Share Pupil Funding commensurate	Projected Total Local Share Per Pupil Funding as % of local FY19	Projected Total Pupil Funding (Local+State+ Federal) commensurate	Projected Total Withholding for Fixed or Unique
	Total	Warwick	proposal	h new charter Total proposal Expenditures ^{xii}	with new charter proposal	Costs (to district)
2021-22 (Year 1)	186	2	\$25,928	0.01%	\$36,330	\$1,952
2025-26 (5 years)	1,032	10	\$129,640	0.07%	\$181,650	\$9,760
2033-34 (at scale)	2,628	26	\$337,064	0.19%	\$472,290	\$25,376

<u>Key implication:</u> RIDE projects on an annual basis by FY2033-34, commensurate with the new school proposal reaching full enrollment at-scale, total funding of \$472,290 to be generated by Warwick students. \$337,064 of this \$472,290 will be contributed through local share funding. This \$337,064 represents 0.19% of Warwick's total reported FY19 expenditures.

 $^{^{}m i}$ Enrollment Assumptions and Comparison based off 10/1/19 reported data publicly available through RIDE's FRED database.

ii Inclusive of independent and catholic schools as available through RIDE's FRED database.

iii Academic Outcome data is based off published assessment results for 2019 available through the public Rhode Island Assessment Data Portal. *Data is suppressed to ensure confidentiality because the minimum reporting size requirement (10 students) is not met. **Data is suppressed to ensure confidentiality because greater than 95% of students did not meet expectations.

^{iv} Demand analysis is based on the most recent lottery data available through the RIDE Charter School Applicant Report. Reporting sizes of less than 10 are suppressed for student privacy.

v Assumes constant local per-pupil funding, net of a constant withholding for fixed or unique costs.

vi Assumes constant state per-pupil funding.

 $[\]ensuremath{^{\text{vii}}}$ Federal funding assumed constant and based off district averages.

viii Withholding for fixed or unique costs is the greater of either: 1) 7% of the per-pupil local share funding; or, 2) the per-pupil value of the districts' fixed or unique costs district's statutorily defined expenditure categories minus the average expenses incurred by all public schools of choice for those same categories of expenses. For those districts whose greater reduction occurs under the calculation of (2), there shall be an additional reduction to payments to mayoral academies with teachers who do not participate in the state teacher's retirement system under chapter 8 of title 36 equal to the per-pupil value of teacher retirement costs attributable to unfunded liability as calculated by the state's actuary for the prior preceding fiscal year. Assumed constant in projections.

ix Total FY19 Cranston Expenditures: \$172,178,876 (all expenditures based on most recent, audited UCOA data)

x Total FY19 North Providence Expenditures: \$61,554,948 (all expenditures based on most recent, audited UCOA data)

xi Total FY19 Providence Expenditures: \$438,019,645 (all expenditures based on most recent, audited UCOA data)

xii Total FY19 Warwick Expenditures: \$175,561,439 (all expenditures based on most recent, audited UCOA data)